

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1863.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

COMMITTEE.—Upon information lodged with Sheriff Vann, on yesterday arrested a free negro named Joux Taylor, formerly of Fayetteville, but for some years a resident of this county, upon a charge of murder. The facts as shown on an examination held before JOHN J. CONWAY, Esq., Special Magistrate, appeared to be as follows:

Some two years since, while TAYLOR was going up the North East branch of the Cape Fear River from Wilmington, in a flat, and when about a mile and a half from town, a negro belonging to ARTHUR J. HILL, Esq., came to the flat on which TAYLOR was, the only other persons on the flat being three young negro boys. The negro traded with TAYLOR, receiving meat and whiskey for some beans. He got drunk on the whiskey and laid down on the flat and went asleep, during which time TAYLOR robbed him of some little money which was in his pockets, after which he woke him up and put him ashore. Shortly after being put ashore the negro misused his money and pursued the flat in a small boat with the view of getting it back. He came up with the flat and demanded his money of TAYLOR, who took up a heavy boat-hook or "gig" and beat the negro over the head and back. The beaten man endeavored to get in to his boat but upset her, and got into the river; the boys, with TAYLOR, hauled him on board the flat, when TAYLOR went at him with an axe. The second kill TAYLOR struck him with the axe he tumbled overboard in a dying condition, and never came out alive. This occurred about two miles above town. The boys state that they were deterred from reporting the murder on account of threats made by TAYLOR that he would kill them if they ever said a word about it. The boys are free boys.

TAYLOR was fully committed to stand his trial for murder at the next term of the Superior Court of Law for this County.—Daily Journal, 12th inst.

The Month of "March"

Will soon be upon us, and with the spirit now abroad in Congress, we must all, "march," editors, proprietors, printers, and "ye devil," for saith Mr. CONRAD of "Lousy Anna," the people can do mighty well, if not better without newspapers, and "editors," "redactors," "ad genus omnes," require no knowledge, no training.—In fact, in Mr. CONRAD's opinion, editors can afford to be as ignorant and useless as members of Congress or ex-Secretaries of the navy. We have long entertained a different opinion. There is no other profession which presents so many failures and so few legitimate successes. We say legitimate successes, for men have succeeded in making money and obtaining circulation by demagogical, sensational or other unworthy means. But to obtain a legitimate success, without resort to any of these left-handed manoeuvres, requires a tact and training which Mr. CONRAD has never had and which he is incapable to acquire and unable to endure.

But "march" is the word. Every fellow must march. The click of the types and the sound of the press is to be heard no more in the land. As the Spring opens all these things must give way to the voice of the turtle—not the snapping turtle—neither the yagulator,—but the turtle dove, and no voices are to be raised save those of Congressmen and ex-Secretaries of the Navy. Viva la CONRAD! Long may he wave!

We take it very easy. We try to do our duty where we are. The price of paper is getting up, and, upon the whole, it would not be a bad idea to stop printing at present rates, and we don't want to raise them. If we can do better service anywhere else, then it will be all right. We don't think we can, but we will try to do our best wherever we may be called. We only renew our request that members of Congress be exempted and kept out of the army, for it would ruin us to be in the same army corps with such men as CONRAD or FOOT.

Yes verily, it would!—SLEAZ!

The General Assembly of this State has to have adjourned, and so far as we know, did adjourn, yesterday. We have made few reports of the actions of this Legislature. It has done little, but that is not to be imputed to it as a fault. Had it done less it would, perhaps, have had less to answer for. The same might be said of most legislative bodies. A very few measures rightly weighed are all that are wanted.

We have avoided saying much about this (probably) defunct body. We will continue to pursue the same course—*de mortuis nil nisi bonum*, is a good and a wise saying, and, adopting this rule, we can have very little to say about the late Legislature. We do sincerely hope, that, taking it all in all we may never look upon its like again. Surely, in reference to this recently deceased assemblage, the defeated candidates for seats therein may well comfort themselves by the reflection that "the post of honor is the private station."

We mean no personal reflection upon any of the members—not we, for they are belligerent—threatening—combative. The talkers much fight. Several members did insist ferociously that any body that didn't admit, concede and indeed, assert their (the members,) Simon-purty—had denied the faith and was worse than an individual—in fact, a "destructive." Lord bless us, we are weak and lowly, and the big bluster convinced us that those using it were very brave—seriously dangerous, energetic, etc., etc., and we were compelled to hold our tongues—yes, we were.

The House of Commons immortalized itself by entertaining Dr. HENRY's donkey-asical resolutions about the Richmond Enquirer and other people. We are glad that returning snail induced it to drop the thing. The ten regiment hobby was also dropped. There was still some public opinion left which the high-falootin members could not quite bulldoze down, and which they were not altogether brave enough to defy.

We hardly think that the State ever did have precisely such another Legislature. Are we singular in expressing the hope that it may never again have another exactly like it?—Daily Journal, 12th.

The Savannah "Republican" of the 4th instant says advice from the Ogeechee indicate that the Yankees contemplate another attack upon our battery. The iron-clad steamer was in sight of the fort yesterday, accompanied by a transport, which was transferring to her something, supposed to be ammunition. It is not improbable that the fight will be renewed in the course of a few days. Gen. Mercer has issued the following proclamation:

HON. MILITARY DISTRICT (Ga.)

Savannah, Feb. 2nd, 1863.

Fellow-citizens of Savannah: All the indications point to an early attack upon this city. I call upon you to arm for the defence of your families and your altars. Let the foot of the invader be driven from our soil. I appeal to you, one and all, to help in this sacred cause. You can do much—you can do everything. All who will join heart and hand in this holy work of patriotism will be made acquainted with the details on application at these headquarters.

H. W. MEMOR, Brig. Gen. Com'dg.

Vallandigham's Birth and Parentage and Extraction.

A Southern paper, the Atlanta Confederacy, having stated that CLEMENT L. VALLANDIGHAM was not a Yankee but of Maryland birth, and said paper having asserted with the assumed weight of personal knowledge and acquaintance with the distinguished gentleman referred to, we quote the annexed paragraph from a speech of Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, delivered in the Lincolnite House of Representatives and published in the Congressional Globe of the 15th January. It confirms

what we know.—Mr. VALLANDIGHAM is a native of Ohio, but of Southern parentage. He says: And now, sir, I who have not a drop of New England blood in my veins, but was born in Ohio, and am wholly of Southern ancestry, with a slight cross of Pennsylvania Irish, would not be so bold as to say that I am a Yankee. In behalf of New England, Sir, some years ago, in the midst of high sectional controversies, and speaking as a Western man, I said some things which, as a United States man, and for the sake of reunion, I would recall. My prejudices, indeed, upon this subject are as strong as any man's; but in due day of great national humiliation and calamity, let the voice of prejudice be hushed.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—On last Monday morning between seven and eight o'clock, a negro girl named KISLAW, about fifteen years old, belonging to Wm. N. PARKER, Esq., but hired to Mr. W. W. PARKER, went to lift some cooking utensil from the hearth, using the skirt of her frock as a protection for her hand. The frock caught fire and before it could be extinguished, she was so much burned that she died this morning. The house was set on fire in two or three places, but was soon extinguished.

The exemption bill, or rather the question of an exemption bill seems to give our Confederate Congress a great deal of trouble. There is evidently no system nor understood principle in the case; neither is there anything approaching to permanency. We may know what the law is to-day, and make arrangements accordingly, but we can have no assurance that such will be the law to-morrow, or that the arrangements made may not be knocked on the head before they have gone into operation.

Some go for repealing all exemptions, others go for devolving the responsibility of all exemptions on the President or the Secretary of War; others again go for modifying existing laws, but the result so far has been that with a single exception the House of Representatives has knocked all amendments on the head and the law of the last session remains unchanged, with the single exception above referred to; that exception is in regard to exempting one person as owner, agent or overseer on any plantation having as many as twenty negroes. This exemption has been repealed by the House. It has been the occasion of much complaint upon the part of non-slaveholders, although in fact its adoption originally was dictated by considerations of what favoritism for slaveholders or men of wealth formed no part. We think it absolutely necessary as a measure of safety and of domestic police that some white men should thus be left for the purpose of maintaining order and enforcing discipline among the servile population. Besides, for the purpose of raising supplies to feed our armies, the labor of the slave population of the Southern States must be our main dependence, and in order that such labor should be productive it is necessary that it should be under intelligent white control. This control can be best exercised by the owners or overseers on the different plantations.—These considerations appear to us to be based upon grounds of public policy and not of personal favour. We think that some exemption is necessary for the purpose of having due control among the negroes, and of utilizing their labor for the support of our armies in the field.

VALENTINE'S DAY.—We happened yesterday afternoon to open an exchange paper in which we noticed a bird of the pigeon breed pictured flying, with an envelope in its bill, said envelope being supposed to contain a Valentine. The letter press below informed the public that Valentines could be bought at a certain place.

This reminded us of a fact that we otherwise should have been very apt to forget, and that is that to-morrow will be the 14th of February, and therefore the day appropriated to Saint Valentine, whoever he was, for there are different stories told about the old gentleman.

Luckily the custom of sending Valentines, had been pretty much abandoned before the war commenced, and so it is that few will regret the difficulty of getting the fancy papers upon which nobby nobby verses used to be illustrated by abominably stupid engravings. Still we have no doubt but that some enamored swains will send "the dokeyments," which will, in some cases, create quite a flutter in gentle bosoms.

In the matter of Valentines and "sweet doves" that "fly away," it is as well to state, as a matter of fact for public information, that pigeons carrying letters by express do not carry them in their bills, but, on the contrary, tied to their shin-bones.

Daily Journal, 13th.

We agree fully with the Richmond Enquirer in deprecating the too frequent indulgence in exaggeration which characterizes reports from the theatre of war either on sea or land, and which, unfortunately, is not confined to the Lincolnites, but shows itself in high quarters even among the Confederates.

The recent high-falootin despatches from Charleston—the raising of the blockade and all that, were very fair illustrations of "Much Ado About Nothing," or next to nothing. Now that the fog clears up we find that the expedition of our iron-clads was pretty badly managed and failed in accomplishing what ought to have been its main object, namely, the recapture of the Princess Royal with her invaluable cargo. She was lying a short distance from the bar and might have been taken but was permitted to escape. We do wish that telegraphic correspondents and sensational editors would try to "hold their horses" a little now and then.

We are requested to state that the post-office at Fayetteville, Wayne county, was discontinued in November 1861. Letters and papers for Fayetteville, go to Dudley, P. O.

The Fayetteville Observer, in its last issue, either misrepresents or misinterprets our meaning. We much prefer to accept the former construction of its course.

We know the reserves in South Carolina are composed of persons not subject to conscription. We know that the only State troops in Georgia are railroad guards, who in our State are Confederate soldiers. They are paid by the Confederacy and subject to Confederate orders in both States. There are two regiments of such guards in Georgia, and probably between one and two in this State.

General Floyd's whole "State line" never did number twenty-five hundred, and never was in, whole or part, of conscripts, and it never was worth what it cost to raise and sustain it. We think the Observer will do us the justice to believe that we would be among the very last to throw imputation upon the State of North Carolina.

There appears to be little reason to doubt the fact that all the movements of the enemy indicate a concentration of force with a view to an early attack upon Charleston. We may look for news of its commencement at any moment. In all probability it cannot be delayed beyond the next five or six days. God save the right.

We wish we could fully believe the news said to have come from the Northwest, which will be found to-day in our telegraphic column. It is not impossible. In fact it may come true at some future time, but we doubt its being true now. Of course if true it would mean peace and upon our own terms. We had better not count upon it at this time. We have yet to win our independence. It has got to be conquered rather than negotiated for.

The Northern papers say that all the officers' views at Fort Royal have been ordered North, in view of active operations from that point against Charleston.

How LINCOLN PROVIDES FOR HIS FRIENDS.—The Legislature of New Jersey has just turned Mr. Fields out of the Senate of the United States to make way for Mr. W. F. VAUGHAN. The mode by which this was done was an extraordinary proceeding, and one of the course of the Administration. The Administration accordingly replied to it by nominating Mr. Fields to the bench of the District Court of the United States in New Jersey.—The New York World says of this course:

The Administration thus forces upon the people of that State, in the capacity of a judge, a man whom they distinctly refused to trust as a Senator. This outrage upon the principles of constitutional government is the more flagrant that the person so selected to administer the Federal laws in New Jersey has signally failed in his duties as a Senator. A COMMITTEE OF THREE.

Feb. 12th, 1863.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—You will please permit me, through your columns, to tender the thanks of my Company and myself to Mrs. J. C. Williams, Sampson county, for a lot of blank forms for the use of my Company. It is impossible for Southern agents to receive orders to the just demands of patriotism. It is sufficient for them to be acquainted with our necessities, and our needs are immediately supplied.

Yours truly,

W. R. LARKINS, Capt. Co. I, 27th N. C. T.

PURCHASE OF COTTON AND TOBACCO BY THE GOVERNMENT.

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It is interesting to observe, so far as the reports of agents show, \$48,028 78 have been paid in cash, and the remainder in bonds. No reports from Louisiana, Texas and Florida have yet been received, and no reports from any of the agents for the month of December have reached the office in Richmond, but it is estimated that the purchases made by the Government, including the purchases in the above statement, have up to this time been already purchased for the use of the Government.

The average price paid on the purchases reported, is about thirteen and a half cents per pound, varying in different States, the average being lowest in Mississippi and Arkansas. The prices to be paid hereafter will be without doubt, considerably higher.

Two forms of cotton certificates have been issued, one proposing to deliver the cotton to the holder at a fixed price after the declaration of peace, and the other to be the earliest days of her history, when her kings were the jiltiest of all possible gamblers, and her princes the most unflinching of washwomen. We propose that Mr. Lincoln have leave to resign the Presidency and accept the vacant throne of Athens. The arrangement ought to satisfy all the parties concerned.

Let Greece take Mr. Lincoln, and learn under his benign sway how the Phrygian cap may be made so like a crown as to deceive the keenest eye. We will pay King Abraham's expenses out, and send with him that big body guard which need only be dismounted and trained, say under the order of Setrap Butler, to aid the pomp of Persia and the state of Rome to the grace of Greece, and surround the successor of Otho with such a show of officers as Tarquin might have envied and such a show of submission as Sapor never enjoyed.

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We are sorry that Gov. GRAHAM, while speaking in GRAVES' favor, did not explain this matter. Mr. GRAVES' friends claim that he is a citizen of this State, and GRAVES himself has taken protection under that plea, thereby acknowledging that he made a false statement in order to visit the North. We know nothing of the truth of the matter, but we are sure that as much as Gov. GRAHAM and others continue to blame the Confederate authorities for making the arrest, we feel justified in alluding to the false representations of GRAVES to show that he is not so cutely guileless as some seem anxious to make it appear.

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Henderson,	7th
Williamston,	8th
Gaston,	10th
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BY TELEGRAPH.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 13th, 1863.

The Senate several important bills were introduced. The committee on military affairs reported, adversely upon the proposition to enroll government employees as conscripts. The exemption bill was discussed with adjournment.

The House passed a bill allowing the soldiers five dollars per month for deficiencies in rations. Also passed the impeachment bill, which empowers any officer commanding a military district or department to authorize the impressment of property when it cannot be otherwise procured; the impressment of slaves to be made in accordance with State laws, but in the absence of such laws, in accordance with rules prescribed by the Secretary of War. No slaves to be impressed where they can be hired at the normal market rates, and no individual to be deprived of provisions required for the comfort and support of his family, nor, except under extreme cases of grain, forage, slaves, or other property necessary for plantation, compensation to be made for property seized; and if the owner and impressing officers cannot agree, it shall be determined by three disinterested persons; property lost, destroyed, or injured, to be paid for by the government. Penalties are attached for any officer impressing property in violation of the act. The House adjourned to Monday.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM THE NORTHWEST—INDIANA, ILLINOIS AND OHIO ABOUT TO LEAVE THE YANKEE GOVERNMENT.

Mobile, Feb. 13th, 1863.

The Southern Crisis, of the 11th inst., learns from a distinguished citizen of one of the Northwestern States, that the States of Indiana, Illinois and Ohio have determined to stop the war, and make terms of peace with the Confederate States at all hazards. They are resolved that the war against the Confederate States shall cease, otherwise the Northwest will make war against the aggressor. Citizens of these States, drafted or conscripted, are leaving the army by hundreds, and are returning to their homes. Many of them are armed with arms, and are determined to control the movement. Of one hundred and fifty thousand soldiers remain, and that number is daily diminished by mortality from sickness and voluntary abandonment.

The legislatures of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky will convene at Frankfort in general convention, on the 15th February, to agree upon the institution of a North Western confederacy, proposed terms of peace and commerce with the Confederate States bordering on the Mississippi and tributaries, proposing offensive and defensive terms with, or adoption of, the Confederate States Constitution, to incorporate these new members into the Confederacy, to be agreeable to the people of the Confederate States, but in any event relations of peace, amity and commerce with the South.

Commissioners will bear in